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LSU SHREVEPORT

(al' mæ jest)

February 10, The Year 2000 *The Almagest* Poised on the edge. Volume 37, Number 2

Cooper promoted to assoc. vice chancellor

by William Aaron McKechnie and Brian Rogers

Glenda Cooper, appointed Director of Alumni Affairs and Community Relations for LSUS in 1998, was given the position of associate vice chancellor of development in November of 1999.

The \$40,000 year assoc. vice chancellor position was created as a promotion for Cooper and was filled without a search of any kind.

"There wasn't a search. The position was created as a promotion, an expansion of her duties," said Martin Albritton, vice chancellor of alumni affairs.

The search criteria is generally mandated by the state to fulfill equal opportunity employer requirements.

When asked about the search requirements, Dr. Linda Martin, professor of communications, said, "If there had been a search of some kind, I would have considered applying. It is in my field, and at the school I love."

Cooper, who was hired originally after an arduous search, will have additional duties as well as continu-

ing to oversee the Alumni Affairs and Community Relations. Cooper will also organize activities to utilize the importance of LSUS in the community, both economically and culturally.

With a bachelor's degree in secondary education from LSU Baton Rouge, Cooper was among the "first class" to graduate from LSU Shreveport with a Liberal Arts Master's degree in 1985.

The Endowment Foundation that gives out student scholarships is currently estimated at \$65,000. Each semester four percent of the total money is used to issue student scholarships, last semester six students were given scholarships. The foundation's total has remained the same for approximately the last 32 years. Cooper says she would like to find ways to increase the total fund so more money can be used for the students.

Other goals Cooper has are to better organize and recognize the 32 years of

Alumni, give attention to the American Studies Program, and continue the growth of the university as a whole.

Cooper says it is "rewarding to find (LSUS) Alumni everywhere in the community."

Cooper also believes there should be more recognition given to the faces and voices of those who are LSUS Alumni.

Albritton says Cooper's position benefits LSUS due to her extensive experience in the community and coupled with her knowledge of the programs she directs.

Cooper's credentials include serving on the Board of directors of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities from 1989-2000, serving as its chair from 1996-1998. Cooper has served on the chancellor's Advisory Committee since 1989 and served as president/ chair of KDAQ Public Radio, located on campus.

Cooper will host the symposium "Divided Highways: Route 66 to I-69, America's Love Affair with the Open Road" in the UC Theater at 9a.m. on February 18.



Cooper

LSUS student sells campaign

by Mark Rogers

On Wednesday Feb. 2, public relations senior Dana Smelser presented a public information proposal that

she designed, to the Minden-South Webster Chamber of Commerce. The project is a semester-long analysis of the



Smelser

Chamber's communication strategies. SWEPCO has funded implementation of the program to begin immediately with a grant of \$1500.

The campaign will provide an effective, coordinated communication strategy for the chamber of commerce as it attempts to increase community awareness of the chamber's mission. Smelser researched and created the proposed plan as a part of Dr. Linda Martin's public relations campaign design course. The class is a capstone of the public relations curriculum and allows students to exercise their knowledge gained in earlier courses for a client in the community.

BASEBALL
Check out The Almagest's coverage of the Pilot's first game on page 7

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The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n): Arabic: "The Majestic"
any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the
9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary

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The Almagest is a member of the Southeastern Journalism Conference, American College Press Association, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association

From The Editor

The SGA is hiring. The LSUS student government couldn't make quorum on Monday, February 7. When there aren't enough senators to call a meeting it means that the meeting couldn't make quorum. This means that the SGA couldn't legally have a meeting.

They called the meeting to order anyway citing a passage in the SGA constitution which read that a meeting could be called but no action could be taken.

The first order of business was whether or not any of the senators were going to make it to next week's meeting. Next week's meeting will be on Valentine's day. Only one senator raised a hand to signify intent to attend.

To compound the problem six senators have resigned this semester due to scheduling conflicts. These senators are: Chris Lee, Steve Martino, Matt Titus, Sasha Walker and Shunda Walker. At

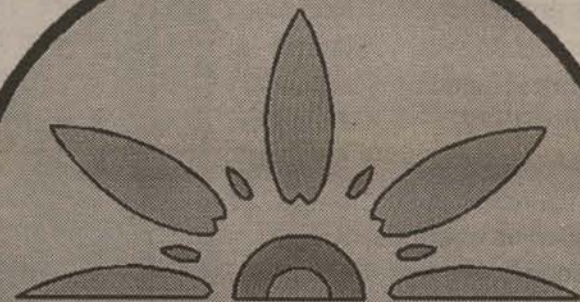
Monday's non-meeting meeting, three more senators were removed from SGA for lack of attendance. These senators are: Nick Chiartana, Nancy Henning, and Tricia White.

The SGA president, Stephanie McKenzie, can now just appoint nine people to the SGA as long as they're approved by a two-thirds majority of the senators.

Call the SGA president at 797-5342 if you're interested in taking over one of those spots.

If you're counting, there are now nine open slots on SGA for anyone who can actually show up for the meetings.

The meetings are every Monday at 6 PM. Except next Monday, of course, next Monday is Valentine's Day.



R.I.P.
Shreveport

Got a story?

Call the Almagest at 797-5328

Email us at almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

Letter to the Editor:

School smokers take heed

To the Editor,

I would like to first thank *The Almagest* for the opportunity to submit this letter. Secondly, I need to make it clear that this is not intended to bash any group of people or their habits. It is intended to put a specific group on notice that there are those of us on the LSUS campus who are tired of the filth that surrounds the north, main entrance to Bronson Hall.

I read with interest a recent story in *The Almagest*. The article discussed how this same entrance to Bronson Hall is the unofficial gathering place for those who want to get the "scoop" on what is happening on campus. I thought this was very ironic. In today's "bigger and better" society of e-mail and "chat" rooms, students and staff from any walk of life can anonymously gather, talk and express their pleasure or displeasure about anything with complete strangers with no fear of repercussions. Unfortunately another picture also came to mind, it is the gathering place for smokers and a senseless dumping ground for the remnants of cigarettes.

Again, this letter is not intended to harass smokers. We do, however, condemn those who choose to irresponsibly discard of the butts once finished. It seems the most common method is to simply throw the butt on the sidewalk or into the small bushes fronting the north side of Bronson Hall. This may not sound like much, but I wonder if these same people would like it if a load of cigarette butts were dumped into their yards. What is worse, the problem is amplified during a heavy rain. It seems the area is somewhat low and the butts and trash form a crust over the puddled water. Kools, Marlboros, you name it, it is the place to see a river of cigarette butts and trash. I wonder how future generations would look at us if this was one of the pictures they saw. I believe we as a human race have been blessed with a beautiful world to live and through various means, we have taken the liberty to respond however we choose without fear of consequence. One of those responses has been to not care what environment we surround ourselves with or how it impacts others.

Unfortunately, when someone mentions banning smoking, the smokers yell that they are being treated unfairly. I believe all most people are asking is simply, "Pick up your trash!" It is not difficult. Having served in the military, one of the first lessons learned was how to "field strip" your cigarette and put in your pocket. I witnessed entire Marine Companies move into an area and leave no trace they were ever there.

I was shocked one day to see the building custodians actually picking up the cigarette butts in the area. The person to whom I was speaking said, "That's their job." I'm sorry, it is not anybody's job to pick up someone else's litter. As a young police officer, I wrote numerous citations for littering when the only item discarded was a cigarette butt. I had several people applaud as I wrote one summons.

I believe a campaign could be started to remind smokers who litter that the world does not belong just to them. It is a fragile place that should not be taken for granted and one that deserves our utmost respect. I think a campaign could be started and called, "pick up your butt!" It may not be the most catchy phrase, but maybe it would get the message across!

Josh Miller

Louisiana Community Policing Institute

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SGA lobbies administration for longer library hours



by Scott Balcerzak

At last week's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, a proposal was nearly unanimously approved to attempt to extend the hours of operation at LSUS Noel Memorial Library. The proposal still has to be accepted by the library due to budgetary issues.

If approved, the proposal would extend the library's hours of operation by more than 17 hours a week. The changes would be as follows: 7:30 am-10:00 p.m. on Fridays, 1:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. on Saturdays, and 1:00 p.m.-12:00 am on Sundays. The library is currently open to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays and to 5:00 p.m. on weekends. The SGA also proposes that the library be open 24 hours a day during the week of final exams.

While it is still too

early to tell if the proposal will be accepted, SGA Senator Jason Penry feels that an extension of library hours would be beneficial for LSUS students. "This is an opportunity for all our students to study at anytime during Finals Week," Penry said. "It would allow students to better accommodate their schedules." The library currently does not extend its hours of operation during the week of final exams.

Problem from Hell



Two places on a piece of uncooked spaghetti are chosen at random where it is then broken. What is the probability that the three pieces of spaghetti form a triangle?

Hint: In a triangle the sum of the lengths of any two sides is longer than the third.

Solutions can be submitted to Al Vekovius in the mathematics department, 420 Bronson Hall. Prizes will be awarded for solutions.

Chemical-creativity link may be folklore

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle gave us a body of riveting stories about Sherlock Holmes, detective, master of deductive reasoning—and drug addict. As "The Sign of Four" opens, Holmes punctures his arm with a hypodermic needle and savors a seven percent solution of cocaine. His partner, Dr. Watson, scolds him. Holmes admits that the drug could damage his health but adds that cocaine is "so transcendently stimulating and clarifying that its secondary action is a matter of small moment."

People in real life have made a similar claim—that alcohol or other drugs stimulate creativity. On the surface, this idea seems to ring true. The list of creative people who abused alcohol or other drugs is long. Among writers it includes Sinclair Lewis, Jack London, Thomas Wolfe, Truman Capote, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Eugene O'Neill, Hart Crane, John Cheever, John Berryman and William Faulkner. You can add numerous painters, musicians and other artists to that list.

Faulkner captured his fondness for alcohol when he remarked that "civilization begins with distillation." Fitzgerald said, "Drink heightens feeling. When I drink, it heightens my emotions and I put it in a story. My stories written when sober are stupid... all reasoned out, not felt."

Behind such comments is a theory about the nature of creativity. According to this theory, creativity is the ability to see



ordinary things in an extraordinary way. Chemical use leads to altered states of consciousness and helps the artist look at everyday life with fresh eyes. "When you work hard all day with your head and know you must work again the next day," wrote Ernest Hemingway, "what else can change your ideas and make them run on a different plane like whiskey?"

Alcohol and drugs are often part of an artist's working routine. Faulkner wrote with a bottle of whiskey in reach. Poet Stephen Spender admitted that he drank endless cups of coffee when writing and sometimes wanted to smoke two or three cigarettes at once.

There's no disputing the genius of writers such as Hemingway, Fitzgerald and others. However, in all probability, great artists create great works in spite of, not because of, their heavy use of alcohol. This conclusion is supported by empirical evidence, including a study led by Ernest Noble and associates from the Alcohol Research Center at the University of California, Los Angeles ("Creativity in Alcoholic and

Nonalcoholic Families," published in the journal *Alcohol*, Vol 10, pp 317-322, 1993).

Noble's study found that, based on a battery of creativity tests, alcoholic fathers and sons had generally lower creativity scores than nonalcoholic fathers and sons. The alcoholic fathers and sons scored significantly lower on most of the personality questionnaires, which have been found to be reasonably valid measures of creativity.

The most consistent conclusion to be drawn from Noble's research and other studies examining the creativity-chemical link is summed up best in Noble's study: "Whereas creative people may sometimes be alcoholic, alcoholics are seldom creative."

In the "The Thirsty Muse: Alcohol and the American Writer" (Ticknor and Fields, 1989), author Tom Dardis pokes holes at the creativity-chemical link. In his book, Dardis, a professor of English, reviews the work and lives of Hemingway, Faulkner, Fitzgerald and O'Neill. All were alcoholic. He suggests that addiction may have diminished the creativity of several writers from this group later in life.

Dardis argues that Hemingway's most notable writing ended during his 41st year with "For Whom the Bell Tolls." And after the publication of "Go Down, Moses" when he was 44, Faulkner's work declined.

Often artists return to the work they did

while intoxicated and end up disappointed. Even Fitzgerald regretted that he wrote the second half of "Tender Is the Night" while drinking.

In many cases, alcoholism and other drug use probably contributed to circumstances that ended the lives of artists. Hemingway committed suicide. So did London, Crane and Berryman.

Even if we agree with the theory that some chemical use promotes creativity, there is no proof that addiction does so. In addition we find a formula for creative burnout, rather than creative inspiration.

Among the writers Dardis studied, O'Neill was the only one to choose the path of recovery. When he turned 38, the playwright decided that alcoholism would devour his writing talent and lead to suicide or insanity. He stopped drinking. During his years of sobriety he produced two classics of American drama: "The Iceman Cometh" and "Long Day's Journey Into Night."

Alive & Free is a chemical health column provided by Hazelden, a nonprofit agency that provides a wide range of information and services relating to alcohol and drug dependence. Address questions to *Alive & Free* Editor, BC 10, P.O. Box 11, Center City, MN 55012-0011. For more resources on substance abuse, call Hazelden at (800) 257-7800 or check its web site at www.hazelden.org.

NTE requirements are changing



by Christy Avery

Louisiana state requirements for the National Teachers Exam (NTE) have changed. LSUS will have reviews of all major required areas of the exam in three sections, beginning Feb. 12 through 26, in Bronson Hall 207.

Effective Sep. 1, 1999, Louisiana made changes to the NTE. The NTE has been replaced with the Praxis Series, which is now the certification requirement.

"A lot of people aren't aware that Louisiana has

these requirements", said Barbara Williford, director of non-credit programs. Those who have already taken the NTE will not need to re-certify, and up to a grace period, scores prior to Sep. 1 will be converted to the Praxis.

The new Praxis will have twenty specialty areas to score instead of eighteen areas on the NTE. Only fifteen areas will be required for certification. The following five areas will not be requirements: Agriculture, Art Education, Industrial Art Education, Special Education, and Speech Communication. The new areas on the Praxis are: Administration and Supervision, Art Education, Special Education and Industrial Art Education. Special Education will replace the

old NTE area, Education of the Mentally Retarded, and Industrial Art Education will replace the old NTE area, Media Specialist.

Applicants can enroll for all or individual sections. The fee is \$395 for all sections, including materials (\$170 full day, plus one-time \$70 materials fee, or \$85 half-day, plus one-time \$70 materials fee). The scheduled sections are Feb. 12, 19 and 26. The times are 8-5pm. The areas covered are reading, writing, math and PLT (Principle of Learning). Students taking the exam will be required to take

these areas in addition to the specialty areas.

For more information or to sign up contact: Barbara Williford in Continuing Education BH123 or

call 797-5262, fax 797-5395, or e-mail. Williford encourages applicants to sign up at least one week before classes to avoid a \$10 late fee.

GRE Prep at LSUS

LSUS hold a review of all parts of the Graduate Records Examination (GRE) to prepare students for the upcoming GRE. The review will be in 2 class sessions: March 18 and 25, for the exam on April 8, in Bronson Hall 207.

The GRE review will cover: Logic, Math Problems and Quantitative Comparison and Verbal Skills on March 18, and Math Problems on March 25. The times will be 8-5pm.

The fee is \$395 for all sessions, including materials (\$170 full day, plus one-time \$70 materials fee, or \$85 half-day, plus one-time \$70 materials fee).

For more information you may call or sign up in BH 123, Continuing Education or contact Barbara Williford at 797-5262, fax 797-5395. You may sign up for part or for all sessions. To avoid a \$10 late fee, Williford asks that applicants register at least one week before class sessions.

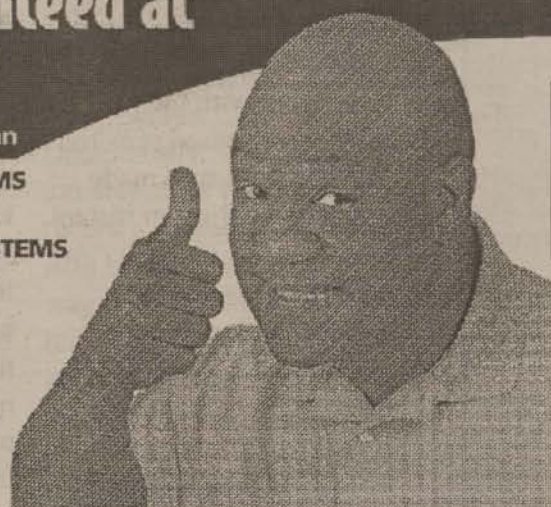
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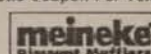
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Condoms are consumer friendly



by Aaron Sartori

Now that we have all touched and tasted everything from the sweet innocence of a kiss to the full blown volcanic action of sexual desire, it is time to fully understand the ups and downs of healthy sexual activity.

According to the Center for Disease Control, the "correct and consistent use of latex condoms during sexual intercourse -vaginal, anal, or oral can greatly

reduce a person's risk of acquiring or transmitting most STDs."

This is good to remember in the height of your sexual tension gone mad because all the personality in the world can't cover up that impending rash. Of course, a rash is the least of your worries when it comes to the fun and exciting world of STDs.

So, before we get into the graphic descriptions and scare tactics that would make even the likes of Hugh Hefner take a vow of abstinence, let's take a look at Consumer Report's condom ratings.

High Sensation -spermi-
cally lubricated,
Enhanced Pleasure-spermi-

cally lubricated, and Pure Protection-Lifestyles Vibra-ribbed all received a rating of 100 from Consumer Reports meaning they had a less than 1% failure rate.

Yet, condoms were originally intended as protection from pregnancy and where some condoms fail to meet the standard for protection from disease they make up in enhanced pleasure and exciting technology. What else could you ask for when your not sure if you could be catching a potentially fatal disease accept a little extra fun for your cost.

This is where an Indian physician named Dr. A.V.K. Reddy came in with



Photo by Mark Rogers

Aaron Sartori's impression of a live sperm.

his revolutionary Pleasure Plus ultra sensation condom. Reddy's Pleasure Plus created a condom that was looser fitting in the exact area of the penis where most of the nerve endings are located.

The friction produced by the addition of extra loose latex with the allowed increased sensitivity at the right spot made the Pleasure Plus an instant hit.

The success of the Pleasure Plus ultimately has led to the creation of an even more dynamic design that built upon the basic components of the Pleasure Plus.

Trojan's Supra and Reddy's Inspiral are the latest addition in the war to preserve sexual excitement and sensation.

Unlike the Inspiral, the Supra has utilized even more breakthrough technology with the use of polyurethane instead of latex which allows the ben-

efit of being safe to use with oil based lubricants, has no taste or odor, and warms to body temperature (to allow a life like feeling).

The choice is now definitely yours. If you need the added protection from the creepy crawlies of a one night stand or the enhanced sensation in a long term relationship at least you know where to turn.

The decisions of growing up are hard and long, but the website Condomania (<http://www.condomania.com>) sheds some light on the subject by reminding us that "comdoms are about sex and sex is supposed to feel good."

Dressing Pimp

Why Yes, I Do Know Johnnie Ronce

Direct to you from Southern California (of course) comes the *Daddy of Style*, or is that *Sugar Daddy*? Whatever. It's a brand new apparel line that is turning heads and generating curiosity amongst college crowds around the country.

Johnnie Ronce is European slang for pimp, and so, this line of apparel brings an attitude, style and charisma that allows everyone to interpret it in their own way.

There's Johnnie Ronce "Classics," which combines ideas and styles of the past four decades with some impressive designs and logos.



"The X92 shirt, which most people think is a radio show free-bee, takes on a whole new meaning when a reflection is near."

Johnnie "Interpretations" take on a whole new attitude in the bathroom. For instance, the X92 shirt, which most people think is a radio show free-bee, takes on a whole new meaning when a reflection is near.

And finally, there is Johnnie Ronce "Tours," in which the funkier cities in America are made global, such as Rough and Ready, CA, Climax, MI, and Fingerville, SC.

Many people question, "Who is Johnnie Ronce?" All the manufacturer can say is that he is definitely someone you know. He has been around the American public for years. His personality and fashion have been set as an icon.

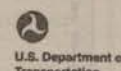
So, check it out on the web at: www.crittendencomm.com/johnnieronce, where you get a taste of some of Johnnie's styles and designs.

By the way, Johnnie is looking for one group or organization per campus to help introduce this apparel line by using it as a fundraiser. Email us at: crittenden@abac.com.



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LSUS debate program hosts tournament

by Mark Rogers

LSUS hosted The 25th Annual Red River Forensics Classic speech tournament on Feb. 4-6. The Classic is a swing tournament, which is actually two tournaments combined. The University of Texas in Tyler sponsored the first half, and LSUS sponsored the second half.

Seventeen schools from five different states competed in speech events such as: informative and persuasive speaking, duet acting, impromptu, poetry and prose reading, team and individual debate, and other events. Some of the events had novice and experienced levels of competition.

The University of Western Florida won first prize school sweepstakes (total points) in both halves of the tournament. Most of LSUS's forensics squad worked on running this tournament and did not

compete. However, A.J. Edwards, an LSUS criminal justice freshman, participated in the experienced level of public debate and advanced to semifinals.

The LSUS forensics squad is preparing for its



Photo by Mark Rogers

A.J. Edwards (left) and Mary (Jorgi) Jarzabek



Photo by Mark Rogers

Jaime Roberts supervises the judges table

next tournament at Arkansas State University in Jonesborough this weekend, and another tournament at the University of Arkansas in Montecello. Public speaking and communication skills are highly valued by most employ-

ers, and practicing in forensics tournaments is an excellent way to hone those skills. If you are interested in participating, you can contact Ms. Mary Jarzabek in Bronson Hall Rm. #318 or call 797-5318.

Baseball: Pilots routed at season opener: 12-3

by Ryan Sanford



The Pilots opened their season with a 12-3 loss at the hands of Division I opponent Northwestern Feb. 2 at Brown-Stroud Field in Natchitoches. Left-hander Jason Penry started for LSUS and took the loss pitching 3.1 innings giving up seven hits and six earned runs.

Despite the lopsided score, the Pilots actually took a 3-1 lead into the bottom of the third, scoring once in the first and twice in the second off Demon starter Jason Slanina.

The Pilots, however, could not hold the lead, giving up three runs in the bottom of the third to fall behind 4-3. Finally Penry was chased in the fourth

after giving up a couple of runs while recording only one out. Sophomore Scott Peyton followed giving up three more runs before the smoke cleared on a five run Demon rally. Peyton stayed on to record a scoreless fifth before giving way to freshman reliever Eric Whately who pitched the final three frames for LSUS surrendering three hits and two earned runs.

Pilots center fielder Robert Carroway had two base-hits and scored a run out of the lead-off spot and sophomore shortstop

Alex Perez went 2 for 3 and drove in a run. Left fielder Fred Bruton also

had a nice day at the plate racking up two hits and scoring a run. Daniel Hermes and Cayce Burkett also added hits for the pilots who were outhit on the day 13-8.

Demon Reliever Clifton Glidewell picked up the win, tossing five shutout innings and fanning eight Pilots while giving up only three hits and walking none. Adrian Luna closed things out for Northwestern, throwing a scoreless ninth and giving the Demons their first win of the season.

Keying the victory for the Demons was the Pilots's inability to stop the top two men in the lineup. Demon second baseman Tyler Dunlap and center fielder Jordan Robison combined to make the Pilots's hurlers miserable by going 6 for 10 on the day and scoring five of the Demons' twelve runs. Northwestern cleanup hitter Demathdian Tate hit the game's only homer and drove in four runs for the home team.

The Pilots will be at home Saturday February 12, hosting Belhaven College in a twin-bill beginning at noon and Tuesday February 15, in a double-header against Northwood University at 1 pm. All of the games will be seven inning contests. Following this weekend the Pilots will have eleven home dates remaining.

SCORES TO DATE:

Saturday's Double Header against Freed-Hardman

1st game: pilots won 6-0

2nd game: pilots won 13-3

Sunday: pilots lost 10-7 in 10 innings



photo by Mark Rogers

eleventeen

by jeremy johnson



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